WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for deriving a dynamic grammar from a set of reference identifiers, comprising:

        a) generating a plurality of selection identifiers;

        b) comparing the plurality of selection identifiers with the set of reference identifiers to determine which selection identifiers are present in the set of reference identifiers; and

        c) selecting the dynamic grammar as comprising data elements that are associated with those reference identifiers that match any one of the selection identifiers.

2.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step a) comprises:

        i) receiving an input identifier; and

        ii) deriving the plurality of selection identifiers in accordance with the input identifier.

3.   The method according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of selection identifiers is derived from the input identifier in accordance with a Hidden Markov Model algorithm.

4.   The method according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of selection identifiers is derived from the input identifier in accordance with one of a confusion matrix and a plurality of confusion sets.

5.   A method for accessing a selected one of a plurality of reference identifiers, each reference identifier being associated with at least one data element, the method comprising the steps of:

        a) generating a plurality of selection identifiers;

        b) determining those reference identifiers that match any one of the selection identifiers;

        c) creating a data element subset comprising at least one data element associated with those reference identifiers that match any of the selection identifiers; and

        d) selecting one of the reference identifiers that matches any of the selection

identifiers on the basis of the at least one data element associated with the selected reference identifier.

6.   The method according to claim 5, wherein the step a) comprises generating the plurality of selection identifiers in accordance with a criterion.

7.   The method according to claim 6, wherein the step a) comprises applying a predetermined algorithm to the criterion.

8.   The method according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined algorithm comprises a Hidden Markov Model algorithm and wherein the criterion comprises a first input identifier.

9.   The method according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined algorithm comprises one based on one of a confusion matrix and a plurality of confusion sets, and wherein the predetermined criterion comprises a first input identifier.

10.   The method according to claim 6, wherein the step d) comprises:

        i) providing a criterion; and

        ii) determining which reference identifier is associated with a data element that has a predetermined relationship with respect to the received criterion.

11.   The method according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined relationship is a matching relationship.

12.   An apparatus for deriving a dynamic grammar from a set of reference identifiers, comprising:

        a) means for generating a plurality of selection identifiers;

        b) means for comparing the plurality of selection identifiers with the set of reference identifiers to determine which selection identifiers are present in the set of reference identifiers; and

c) means for selecting the dynamic grammar as comprising data elements that are associated with those reference identifiers that match any one of the selection identifiers.

5   13.   The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the means for generating comprises:

i) means for receiving an input identifier; and

ii) means for deriving the plurality of selection identifiers in accordance with the input identifier.

10   14.   The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the means for deriving derives the plurality of selection identifiers from the input identifier in accordance with a Hidden Markov Model algorithm.

15.   The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the means for deriving derives the plurality of selection identifiers from the input identifier in accordance with one of a confusion matrix and a plurality of confusion sets.

16.   An apparatus for accessing a selected one of a plurality of reference identifiers, each reference identifier being associated with at least one data element, the apparatus comprising:

a) means for generating a plurality of selection identifiers;

b) means for determining those reference identifiers that match any one of the selection identifiers;

c) means for creating a data element subset comprising at least one data

25   element associated with those reference identifiers that match any of the selection identifiers; and

d) means for selecting one of the reference identifiers that matches any of the selection identifiers on the basis of the at least one data element associated with the selected reference identifier.

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17.   The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the means for generating comprises

means for generating the plurality of selection identifiers in accordance with a criterion.

18.   The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the means for generating further comprises means for applying a predetermined algorithm to the criterion.

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19.   The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the predetermined algorithm comprises a Hidden Markov Model algorithm and wherein the criterion comprises a first input identifier.

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20.   The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the predetermined algorithm comprises one based on one of a confusion matrix and a plurality of confusion sets.

21.   The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the means for selecting comprises:
        i) means for providing a criterion; and
        ii) second means for determining which reference identifier is associated with a data element that has a predetermined relationship with respect to the received criterion.

22.   The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the predetermined relationship is a
20   matching relationship.

23.   An apparatus for transferring a subset of data elements selected from a global set of data items from a first memory to a second memory, each data item of the global set being associated with a reference identifier, the apparatus comprising:
        a processing device coupled to the first memory and to the second memory; and
        a reference identifier selection module coupled to the processing device, wherein the reference identifier selection module includes means for causing the processing device to select, in accordance with a predetermined criterion, which data
30   elements are to be present in the subset of data elements, and wherein the processing device includes means for transferring the subset of data elements from the first memory

to the second memory.

24. An apparatus for responding to at least one vocal input from a user, comprising:

a speech recognizing device for producing a predetermined identifier in

5 response to the vocal input;

a processing device having an input for receiving the predetermined

identifier from an output of the speech recognizer;

at least one memory coupled to the processing device and including at least

one reference identifier having a predetermined relationship to the predetermined identifier;

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means for providing the user with access to the reference identifier having

the predetermined relationship to the predetermined identifier.

25. The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein each reference identifier includes at

least one data element associated therewith, and wherein the predetermined relationship

15 exists between at least a portion of the predetermined identifier and the data element of the

reference identifier provided by the means for providing.

20 26. An apparatus for responding to at least one vocal input from a user, comprising:

a processing device;

a speech recognizer having an input for receiving the vocal input and an

output in communication with the processing device;

a reference identifier database in communication with the processing device;

25 a reference identifier selection module in communication with the

processing device; and

a dynamic grammar memory in communication with the processing device.

27. The apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising:

30 a confusion matrix memory in communication with the processing device;

a confusion set generating module in communication with the processing

device; and

a confusion set memory in communication with the processing device.

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